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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,785	09/22/2000	James Longbottom	WEAT/0042	2355

36735 7590 03/30/2004

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EXAMINER

FRENEL, VANEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3626

DATE MAILED: 03/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/668,785

Applicant(s)

Longbottom et al.

Examiner

Vanel Frenel

Art Unit

3626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5,5/7/01,6/11/02
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 3626

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. This communication is in response to the application filed 09/22/00. Claims 1-56 are pending.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 56 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 56 cannot be depended on itself. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chapman (5,504,491) in view of Tubel et al (5,730,219).

(A) As per claim 1, Chapman discloses a method of communicating between at least one on-site location and at least one off-site location (Col.4, lines 33-67).

Chapman does not explicitly disclose that the method comprising: providing a portable communications attachment to be positioned at the on-site location; establishing a 2 or more-way communication system between the at least one on-site location and the at least one off-site location; and remotely monitoring activities at the

Art Unit: 3626

on-site location via the portable communications attachment and the 2 or more way communication system.

However, these features are known in the art, as evidenced by Tubel. In particular, Tubel suggests that the method comprising: providing a portable communications attachment to be positioned at the on-site location (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67); establishing a 2 or more-way communication system between the at least one on-site location and the at least one off-site location See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67); and remotely monitoring activities at the on-site location via the portable communications attachment and the 2 or more way communication system (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have included the feature of Tubel within the system of Chapman with the motivation of providing transceivers for two-way communication with the surface as well as a telemetry device for communicating from the surface of the production well to a remote location (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 5-8).

(B) As per claim 2, Tubel discloses the method further comprising remotely directing activities at the on-site location (Col.5, lines 63-67 to Col.6, line 42).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

Art Unit: 3626

(C) As per claim 3, Tubel discloses the method further comprising determining positional information of at least one person or object from the on-site location and monitoring the positional information from the off site location (Col.8, lines 4-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(D) As per claim 4, Tubel discloses the method wherein the activities include the sensing of conditions within a wellbore (Col.9, lines 45-67 to Col.10, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(E) As per claim 5, Tubel discloses the method wherein the activities include activities recordable and usable to form a basis for billing (Col.19, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(F) As per claim 6, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the activities include technical activities from the list of equipment operation, diagnostics, or identification (Col.19, lines 1-67; Col.21, lines 41-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

Art Unit: 3626

(G) As per claim 7, Tubel discloses the method, wherein monitoring relates to fishing activities (The Examiner interprets water 16 to the surface of the ocean floor 18 and then downwardly into formations under the ocean floor as a form of fishing activities Col.8, lines 64-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(H) As per claim 8, Tubel discloses the method, wherein fishing activities relate to data transmitted to the off-site location from at least one sensor located in a wellbore (Col.8, lines 3-55).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(I) As per claim 9, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the sensor in the wellbore gathers information related to the condition of a string of tubulars in the wellbore (Col.18, lines 20-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(J) As per claim 10, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the method further comprises providing an on-site computer, wherein the 2 or more-way communication

Art Unit: 3626

system comprises the on-site computer (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(K) As per claim 11, Chapman discloses the method, wherein the positional information is determined by GPS equipment (Col. 4, lines 38-48).

(L) As per claim 12, Chapman discloses the method, wherein the GPS signal is compared to a database to automatically identify the source of the data transmission (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 43).

(M) As per claim 13, Tubel discloses the method, wherein said portable communications attachment automatically utilizes the communication system to transmit data including status, usage, and location to a rental center according to a predetermined schedule (Col.20, lines 13-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(N) As per claim 14, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the portable communications attachment is configured to be worn by, or attached to, a person at the on-site location (Col.9, lines 58-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(O) As per claim 15, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the portable communications attachment is configured to be detachably attached to a hardhat that is worn by an on-site person (Col.23, lines 46-67 to Col.24, lines 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(P) As per claim 16, Tubel discloses the method wherein activities include the measurement of pieces of tubulars to determine their length (Col.23, lines 21-67 to Col.24, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(Q) As per claim 17, Tubel discloses the method wherein activities further include the automatic recordal of the length of pieces of tubular prior to insertion of the pieces of tubular into a wellbore (Col.18, lines 20-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

Art Unit: 3626

(R) As per claim 18, Tubel discloses the method wherein activities relate to the measurement of torque developed between adjacent pieces of tubular being assembled together (Col.8, lines 3-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(S) As per claim 19, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the 2 or more-way communication system utilizes a networked communication system (Col.9, lines 45-67 to Col.10, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(T) As per claim 20, Tubel discloses the method, further comprising a hard hat, wherein the log on data facilitates an automatic recordal for billing of the time that the hardhat is used (Col.24, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(U) As per claim 21, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the on-site person can manually position the communications attachment (Col.16, lines 5-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(V) As per claim 22, Tubel discloses the method of claim 1, wherein a portion of said or more-way communication system comprises the Internet (Col.15, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(W) As per claim 23, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the 2 or more-way communication system further comprises a hard hat and a global positing component physically connected to the hard hat (Col.24, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(X) As per claim 24, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the 2 or more-way communication system further comprises a hard hat having a "flip down" screen for visual display of data (Col.15, lines 14-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(Y) As per claim 25, Tubel discloses a method, wherein the 2 or more-way communication system further comprising a hard hat and an on-site computer and wherein data transmitted between the hardhat and the on-site computer is Internet accessible (Col.14, lines 34-67 to Col.15, line 67).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(Z) As per claim 26, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the on-site computer can be interrogated by off-site personnel authorized to review data related to current and past operations (Col.16, lines 59-67 to Col.17, line 67).

(AA) As per claim 27, Tubel discloses an apparatus comprising: an off-site service computer; a portable communications attachment positionable at a worksite Col.17, lines 45-67 to Col.18, line 67); and a communication system between the communications attachment and the off-site service computer (Col.17, lines 45-67 to Col.18, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(BB) As per claim 28, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communications attachment further comprises a parameter measuring device (Col.18, lines 8-67; Col.21, lines 1-67 to Col.22, line 67).

(CC) As per claim 29, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system further comprises an on site computer that generates data or information to the off-site service computer (Col.17, lines 45-67 to Col.18, line 67).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(DD) As per claim 30, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communications attachment is secured to a piece of clothing, or a hardhat (Col.24, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(EE) As per claim 31, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system is capable of video transmission, audio transmission, still image transmission, and data transmission (Col.15, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(FF) As per claim 32, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises a video portion (Col.15, lines 14-43).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(GG) As per claim 33, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises an audio portion (Col.15, lines 14-43).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(HH) As per claim 34, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises a still image portion (Col.15, lines 14-43).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(II) As per claim 35, Tubel discloses the apparatus wherein the communication system comprises a display (Col.2, lines 54-67 to Col.3, line 10).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(JJ) As per claim 36, Tubel discloses the apparatus, further comprising a database for storing information, wherein the information may be collected real time at point of service delivery and stored in the database (Col.14, lines 22-67 to Col.15, line 67; Col.17, lines 45-67 to Col.18, line 19).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(KK) As per claim 37, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises the Internet (Col.14, lines 34-67 to Col.15, line 67).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(LL) As per claim 38, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises a local link connecting the communications attachment to the remainder of the communication system (Col.13, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(MM) As per claim 39, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises a satellite based portion (Col.13, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(NN) As per claim 40, Tubel discloses the apparatus, wherein the communication system comprises a land-based portion (Col.9, lines 1-57).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(OO) As per claim 41, Tubel discloses the apparatus, further comprising a data acquisition and control unit to input information sensed from a process (Col.14, lines 32-

Art Unit: 3626

67 The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, and incorporated herein. to Col.15, line 43).

(PP) Claim 42 differs from claim 1 by reciting a method of accessing and utilizing off-site service personnel from an on-site location, comprising:

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses securing a communications attachment to an on-site personnel (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 67); establishing communications between the on-site personnel and off-site service personnel (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 67) and Tubel discloses communicating required procedures from the off-site service personnel to the on-site personnel; and communicating information in response to said required procedures from the on-site personnel to the off-site service personnel (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a method of accessing and utilizing off-site service personnel from an on-site location to perform their specified function.

The remainder of claim 42 is rejected for the same reason given above for claim 1, and incorporated herein.

(QQ) As per claim 43, Tubel discloses the method, further comprising tracking on line time that the on-site person spends communicating with the service person (Col.16, lines 5-67).

Art Unit: 3626

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 42, and incorporated herein.

(RR) As per claim 44, Tubel discloses the method further comprising storing said returned information in a database (Col.14, lines 46-67 to Col.15, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 42, and incorporated herein.

(SS) Claim 45 differs from claims 1 and 42 by reciting a method of doing business comprising:

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses providing a portable communications attachment that can be positioned at an on-site location (Col.3, lines 54-65); establishing a 2 or more-way communication system between the on-site location and a service person located at the off-site location (Col.3, lines 54-65) and Tubel discloses remotely directing activity at the on-site location by input from the service person, wherein the remotely directing activity further comprising communicating from the service person to the on-site person that requires procedures; and returning returned information obtained that is based upon said procedures (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a method of doing business to perform their specified function.

Art Unit: 3626

The remainder of claim 42 is rejected for the same reason given above for claims 1 and 42, and incorporated herein.

(TT) As per claim 46, Tubel discloses the method of doing business further comprising storing said returned information in a database (Col.14, lines 46-67 to Col.15, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 45, and incorporated herein.

(UU) As per claim 47, Tubel discloses a system for monitoring conditions at a well site comprising: a communications attachment positionable at the wellsite location (Col.13, lines 1-67 to Col.14, line 67); and a 2 or more-way communication system coupled to the communications attachment, the 2 or more-way communication system established between the wellsite location and the off-site location (Col.13, lines 1-67 to Col.14, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 45, and incorporated herein.

(VV) Claim 48 differs from claims 1, 42 and 45 by reciting a system of providing on-site services from a remote location, comprising:

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses a communications attachment securable to an on-site person (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.4, line 67) and Chapman discloses a 2 or more-way communication system coupled to the

Art Unit: 3626

communications attachment, the 2 or more-way communication system establishing communications relating to on-site equipment; and the 2 or more-way communication system returning information from the remote location pertaining to the on-site equipment (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a system of providing on-site services from a remote location to perform their specified function.

The remainder of claim 48 is rejected for the same reason given above for claims 1, 42 and 45, and incorporated herein.

(WW) As per claim 49, Tubel discloses the system further comprising a database in said 2 or more-way communication system storing said returned information (Col.14, lines 46-67 to Col.15, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 48, and incorporated herein.

(XX) Claim 50 differs from claims 1, 42, 45 and 48 by reciting a method of monitoring an on-site activity by an off-site service person located off-site:

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses providing a communications attachment on-site (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 67) and Tubel discloses establishing communications between an off-site location and the on-site location; communicating information relating to the on-site activity from on-site to the

Art Unit: 3626

service person located off-site; and monitoring the on-site activity off-site (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a method of monitoring an on-site activity by an off-site service person located off-site to perform their specific function.

The remainder of claim 50 is rejected for the same reason given above for claims 1, 42, 45 and 48, and incorporated herein.

(YY) As per claim 51, Tubel discloses the method, further comprising the off-site service person directing the on site activity off-site (Col.13, lines 1-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 50, and incorporated herein.

(ZZ) As per claim 52, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the communicating information is produced in response to the off-site service person directing the on-site activity (Col.13, lines 1-67 to Col.14, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 50, and incorporated herein.

(AAA) As per claim 53, Tubel discloses the method wherein the monitoring comprises fishing (The Examiner interprets water 16 to the surface of the ocean floor 18 and then

Art Unit: 3626

downwardly into formations under the ocean floor as a form of fishing Col.8, lines 64-67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 50, and incorporated herein.

(BBB) Claim 54 differs from claims 1, 42, 45, 48 and 50 by reciting a method of monitoring an on-site activity by an off-site service person located off-site.

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses communications attachment means for providing a communications attachment on-site (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 67) and Tubel discloses communications establishing means for establishing communications between an on-site location and the on-site location (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67); information communicating means for communicating information relating to the on-site activity from on-site to the service person located off-site (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67); and monitoring means for monitoring the on-site activity off-site (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a method of monitoring an on-site activity by an off-site service person located off-site to perform their specified function.

The remainder of claim 54 is rejected for the same reason given above for claims 1, 42, 45, 48 and 50, and incorporated herein.

Art Unit: 3626

(CCC) Claim 55 differs from claims 1, 42, 45, 48 and 50 by reciting a method of doing business comprising:

As per this limitation, it is noted that Chapman discloses providing a communications attachment on-site (Col.4, lines 49-67 to Col.5, line 67) and Tubel discloses establishing communications between an off-site location and the on-site location; communicating information relating to the on-site activity from on-site to the service person located off-site; and monitoring the on-site activity off-site (See Tubel, Col.5, lines 4-67 to Col.6, line 42; Col.9, lines 29-67 to Col.10, line 67).

Thus, it is readily apparent that these prior art systems utilize a method of doing business to perform their specified function.

The remainder of claim 55 is rejected for the same reason given above for claims 1, 42, 45, 48, 50 and 54, and incorporated herein.

(DDD) As per claim 56, Tubel discloses the method, wherein the method comprises the off-site service person directing the on-site activity at the off-site location (Col.13, lines 1-67 to Col.14, line 67).

The motivation for combining the respective teachings of Chapman and Tubel are as discussed above in the rejection of claim 55, and incorporated herein.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited but not the applied art teaches method and apparatus


Art Unit: 3626

for determining permeability of subsurface formations (5,463,549), method for determining rock mechanical properties using electrical log data (5,416,697), system and method for facilitating the activities of remote workers (2002/0129139) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vanel Frenel whose telephone number is 703-305-4952. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on 703-305-9588. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

V.F
V.F
March 20, 2004


JOSEPH THOMAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600